

Ernie Fletcher
Governor



Teresa J. Hill
Secretary

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet

Office of Mine Safety and Licensing
P.O. Box 2244
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602
Telephone: (502) 573 - 0140

EMERGENCY AWARENESS BULLETIN

To: All District Supervisors, Inspectors, Analysts and Instructors
From: Ronald H. Hughes, Director, Division of Investigations
Date: May 30, 2007

EAB-07002 - Kentucky Serious Non Fatal Accident No. 1 - Machinery

On January 29, 2007, at approximately 9:15 AM, a Rock Truck operator was seriously injured at a surface mine within the Office of Mine Safety and Licensing Pikeville District. The victim had a total of 36 years mining experience and 7 years experience at this occupation.

The victim was operating a loaded Caterpillar 777C rock truck down an inclined haul road to a dumping area when the rear brakes failed to activate. The truck went out of control and ran down the road through a berm at the dump area and landed at the base of the fill. The victim was not wearing a seat belt and was thrown forward striking the windshield upon impact.

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES:

1. All powered mobile equipment shall be provided with adequate brakes.
2. All employees shall be trained by the licensee on the operating procedures recommended by the manufacture for the heavy equipment that they are assigned to operate.
3. Restraining devices, such as seat belts, shall be maintained in good working order.
4. Berms shall be installed in such a manner that they extend to at least the mid-wheel height of the highest vehicle that regularly uses the area.
5. Work areas shall be checked by a supervisor for unsafe conditions at the beginning of each shift and any unsafe condition found, such as inadequate berms, shall be corrected before any work is performed in that area.

